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VIA CAS CHANNELS

TOHAK 89

FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM

TO: GENERAL HAIG FOR DR. KISSINGER

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. KISSINGER

MORI PER
C03359475

FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

SUBJECT: NOON NOTES

GVN DENIES PRESS ATTACK ON YOU: THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION OF SOUTH VIETNAM MADE A PUBLIC DENIAL THAT RADIO SAIGON HAD LAUNCHED A PERSONAL ATTACK AGAINST YOU, AS REPORTED IN UPI DATED NOVEMBER 23. THE MINISTRY SAID THAT RADIO SAIGON HAS A DAILY REVIEW OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS IN WHICH ALL OPINIONS OF THE LEADING EDITORIALS ARE EXPRESSED. THE OPINION EXPRESSED IN NO REFLECTS THE POLICIES OF RADIO SAIGON OR THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM.

NVA ATTEMPT TO ELIMINATE ~~THE~~ LEADERSHIP: LE MONDE REPORTED TODAY, QUOTING "RELIABLE AND VERY WELL INFORMED SOURCES" IN SAIGON, THAT ABOUT 1,000 HARD-LINE DISSIDENT NORTH VIETNAMESE TROOPS TWO WEEKS AGO MADE AN ABORTIVE ATTEMPT TO ELIMINATE THE LEADERSHIP OF THE PRG. THE ATTEMPT FAILED, AND THE REBELLION WAS PUT DOWN AFTER TWO DAYS OF FIGHTING. FOLLOWING THIS, PREMIER PHAM VAN DONG VOICED HANOI'S IMMEDIATE, UNCONDITIONAL SUPPORT FOR THE NLF AND PRG LEADERSHIP.

ENEMY LOGISTIC ACTIVITY: DIA REPORTS THAT THE ENEMY IS PREPARING FOR DRY-SEASON LOGISTIC ACTIVITY IN THE NORTHEAST. AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHHS SHOW THAT THE ROADS LEADING FROM THE LAO BORDER INTO THIS AREA ARE IN MODERATE-TO-GOOD CONDITION AND SHOW SIGNS OF USE. IN ADDITION, COMMUNICATIONS INTELLIGENCE REVEAL SOME 600 TONS OF SUPPLIES IN STORAGE, OF WHICH AT LEAST 500 TONS ARE AMMUNITION, WILL BE SHIPPED SOON. SOUTHBOUND SHIPMENTS OF THIS SIZE WERE NOT DETECTED IN THE NORTHEAST UNTIL LATE DECEMBER LAST YEAR. THE EARLY START OF LOGISTIC ACTIVITY IS PROBABLY A RESPONSE TO THE SERIOUS SHORTAGES REPORTED BY ENEMY SNITS IN SOUTH VIETNAM'S MILITARY REGIONS 3 AND 4 AS WELL AS AN EFFORT TO BUILD STOCKPILES PRIOR TO A CEASE-FIIRE.

25X1

ISRAELI RAID IN SOUTHERN LEBANON: HELICOPTER-BORNE ISRAELI TROOPS RAIDED A PALESTINIAN COMMANDO BASE IN SOUTHERN LEBANON AT DAWN THIS MORNING. THE FIGHTING LASTED ABOUT ONE HOUR, LEAVING ONE TERRORIST REPORTEDLY KILLED. THE ISRAELIS RETURNED TO ISRAELI TERRITORY BY HELICOPTER FOLLOWING THE INCIDENT.

PRC VISIT TO ROMANIA DRAWS COMMENT: EMBASSY BUCHAREST HAS NOTED THE RECENT VISIT OF THE PRC'S DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER TO BUCHAREST AS AN INDICATION OF POSSIBLE COLLABORATION BETWEEN ROMANIA AND THE PRC ON CSCE AND MBFR ISSUES. IN THIS CONNECTION, A SOVIET DIPLOMAT IN BUCHAREST RECENTLY EXPRESSED HIS GOVERNMENT'S CONCERN AT SUCH INDICATIONS OF ROMANIAN-CHINESE COOPERATION.

FINLAND RECOGNIZES BOTH GERMANY'S: THE FINNISH GOVERNMENT TODAY OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZED THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY. THE GOVERNMENT HAD MADE THE DECISION, BASED IN PRINCIPLE, TO RECOGNIZE THE TWO GERMANY'S ON SUNDAY.

THE EVENING STAR: ANDREW BOROWIEC REPORTS THAT NINETEEN HOURS OF PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS DURING THE LAST FOUR DAYS APPARENTLY HAVE FAILED TO BREAK THE INDOCHINA DEADLOCK BETWEEN THE U.S. AND NORTH VIETNAM AT THE PARIS TALKS. (A-1)

UPI DISPATCHES REPORT THAT TWELVE U. S. SENATORS, WITH WIVES AND AIDES, BEGAN A "FACT-FINDING AND FAMILIARIZATION" TOUR YESTERDAY OF FOUR COMMUNIST COUNTRIES IN EASTERN EUROPE. (A-2)

ACCORDING TO A RELEASED POW, NAVY LT. (J.G.) NORRIS CHARLES, DESCRIBING LIFE IN A NORTH VIETNAMESE POW CAMP, AMERICAN PRISONERS GET ALONG WELL WITH THEIR NORTH VIETNAMESE JAILERS, PLAYING GAMES, JOKING, SWAPPING FAMILY ANECDOTES, AND GARDENING. (A-4)

HENRY BRADSHAW, QUOTING OFFICIAL SOURCES IN SAIGON, SAID TODAY THIS WEEK'S PARIS TALKS HAVE MADE NO PROGRESS. THEY BLAME THE COMMUNISTS. THE SOURCES' REPORT CAME AS A SLOWDOWN BECAME NOTICEABLE IN THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT'S PREPARATIONS FOR A CEASE-FIRE. (A-6)

AP DISPATCHES REPORT THAT AMERICAN B-52S BLASTED SUPPLY TARGETS FOR A THIRD STRAIGHT DAY IN THEIR HEAVIEST RAIDS OF THE WAR IN NORTH VIETNAM, THE U. S. COMMAND SAID TODAY. (A-6)

THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT BEGAN TODAY BACKING AWAY FROM ITS SLASHING PERSONAL ATTACK ON YOU. THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE INFORMATION MINISTRY TODAY ASSERTED THAT THE GOVERNMENT RADIO SAID NOTHING TUESDAY "WHICH MIGHT BE CONSTRUED AS A PERSONAL ATTACK OF ANY SORT AGAINST YOU OR ANY OFFICIALS OF THE U. S. GOVERNMENT." (A-6)

UPI DISPATCHES REPORTING FROM BELFAST, QUOTING A MILITANT PROTESTANT ORGANIZATION, SAID YESTERDAY THE MAJORITY NON-ROMAN CATHOLIC POPULATION WILL PROCLAIM NORTHERN IRELAND INDEPENDENT UNLESS BRITAIN HANDS CONTROL OF THE PROVINCE BACK TO LOCAL POLITICIANS. (A-6)

CARL T. ROWAN SPECULATES ON THE KIND OF HIJACKING DEAL CUBA MIGHT ACCEPT. (A-15)

GEORGE SHERMAN IN WASHINGTON CLOSE-UP REPORTS ON NIXINGER DECISIONS AND THE PUBLIC. THE EDITORIAL, WITH A CARICATURE OF YOU IN COWBOY REGALIA, QUOTES EXTENSIVELY FROM THE INTERVIEW WITH ITALIAN JOURNALIST ORIANA FALLACI. REFERRING TO THE VIETNAM NEGOTIATIONS, SHERMAN SAYS IT MAY WELL BE THAT THE NIXINGER APPROACH TO THEM WILL END THE TORMENT OF AMERICA WITHOUT A FLOOD OF RECRIMINATIONS. BUT THE MORE BASIC QUESTION IS WHETHER THE SECRETIVE NIXINGER STYLE OF DECISION MAKING IS SUITED TO PREVENTING A SIMILAR CATASTROPHE IN THE FUTURE.

VIRGINIA ARMAT, REPORTING FROM PARIS ON "HENRY THE K, AT WORK, AT PLAY," SUMS UP HER ARTICLE ON YOUR SOCIAL ACTIVITIES BY STATING: "ALTHOUGH MISS OSMER IS OUT OF THE PICTURE, AND MRS. CUSHING AN UNLIKELY PROSPECT, THERE IS CONSIDERABLE SPECULATION OVER HENRY THE K'S OTHER FRIENDS IN PARIS. IT IS KNOWN THAT HE HAS MORE THAN ONE; BUT WHAT PARIS IS BURNING TO KNOW, IS WHO?" (C-1)

UPI DISPATCHES REPORT THAT PROFESSOR CHARLES ASHMAN OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THE PACIFIC, WHO IS WRITING A BOOK ABOUT FORMER TEXAS GOVERNOR CONNALLY, SAID A POLITICAL FEUD DEVELOPED BETWEEN CONNALLY AND YOU WHEN YOU BLOCKED CONNALLY'S APPOINTMENT AS SECRETARY OF STATE. THE FEUD WAS KEPT QUIET SO IT WOULD NOT INHIBIT CONNALLY'S EFFORT TO INFLUENCE DEMOCRATS TO VOTE FOR PRESIDENT NIXON.